484 a joupa or sheds, which they cover with leaves, and they sleep there. Most of them tie up their hammocks to a couple of trees and sleep without further ceremony. Unfortunately when they are in the woods or along the seashore the mosquitos wake them up with their humming, and if this is not sufficient, they sting them so terribly that one must be an unfeeling fellow not to be bothered by them. [88]

[36]

286 352 The Caribs cut four big pieces of wood which are round and smooth. They lean and attach two of these to the purlins of the house. The other two are firmly bound crosswise over the first ones. One of these is above and the other is below, in proportion to the size of the hammock they wish to make. Around this frame women pass their cotton thread which they handle well, although they don't exert themselves too much. They leave half a foot unwoven at both extremities and divide this unwoven part into small groups of (looped) threads. They tie a thin cord, called ébenebou, at the first group of looped threads. This cord is extended (out from the threads) to the length of the arm and then is bent back and passed through the second bundle of looped threads (thereby forming a large loop). From the second bundle this same cord is extended outwards a similar distance and is bent back and passed through the third bundle of looped threads, and similar loops are made up to the last bundle of threads (where the ébenebou cord is tied). A thicker cord is passed through the tops of these large loops (which are thereby drawn together), and this is the cord by which they suspend the hammock wherever it will be hung. This hammock is a protection against snakes, ants, and other dangerous pests. The Caribs make a fire underneath at night to protect themselves from mosquitos and cool air. I have seen some Frenchmen who put mattresses on these hammocks to sleep as in Europe, always in line with the long dimension. This is different from the Caribs who sleep across the shorter dimension (in line with the two suspended ends), and use half of the breadth as a covering. [192]

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494 Among the Caribs a bridge is a plank of wood or a felled tree across a brook. They do not use anything to bridge the large rivers, and they either become wet or cross over them in a small canoe. [361]

396 The Caribs hollow out and make a small canoe from a tree called by the French Holland cheese, because the axe cuts it like cheese. These canoes are used either when they are grating manioc or to go to some neighboring place. It rots immediately if left on the ground, but when it is soaked in water it lasts a sufficiently long time if it is taken out and set to dry. [175]

13: Hodge & Taylor N.E-5 (1930-1956) 1957
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Because it was the most hostile and mountainous of all the Lesser Antillean islands, without flat lands for cultivation or a safe harbor for shipping, Dominica was long considered unworthy of capture (3) (66). As late as 1748 the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle assigned it "to the undisputed possession of the native Indians". Even after the British occupation in 1760 the Caribs continued for many years to be an important independent group which inhabited the windward coast and the high wooded interior of the island. Today the few remaining families of Caribs on Dominica's rugged eastern coast are all that remain of the once powerful island tribes.

The same rugged physiography, which delayed and hindered the expansion of the white man and of the imported negro in Dominica has not only permitted the Carib to linger on but has also safeguarded various species of the biota, including those of native origin as well as those brought to the Antilles by the Indians. Osgood (39), for example, has shown that half a dozen species of birds are peculiar to Dominica. In the reptilian and mammalian groups there are also endemic representatives. Fortunately the immigrant mongoose which has caused such havoc to the native fauna in certain of the neighboring isles has not yet migrated to Dominica.

Of her vegetation and flora Dominica can truly boast, for of all the Caribbees here is one of the richest, the least despoiled, and perhaps the closest to its original natural state. This tiny island of but 300 square miles has more forested land than any other island in the Lesser Antilles, Trinidad excepted. But already the destruction of the forests has begun, initiated by the widespread tropical habit of continually shifting the cultivated plot. Forest land is cleared and planted to native subsistence crops only to be abandoned after several years use when the fertility of the soil has been exhausted. Worthless and woody trees, exemplified by certain species of the genus *Miconia* (locally known as bois krékré), are favored by the progressive clearing of the forest. Until recently the lack of proper forestry regulations helped to darken the picture, and valuable trees such as laurier de roze (*Ocotea* sp.[1]) and Spanish Cedar (*Cedrela odorata* L.) have rapidly

[1] Names of the authorities are omitted in the text if the species is treated in the systematic enumeration that follows.

[Text continues on p. 516.—Ed.]